

territory essentially foreign, and independent of our control. The people, in the exercise of the

against its spread over the uncoccupied territories of the nation. Who is it, sir, that now demands a departure from this wise and safe policy? Who are responsible for all the consequences that may follow the agitation of this subject? I answer the responsibility is with those who seek to overturn the settled policy of this Government—who

I am fully satisfied, in my own mind, that this ingenious device, not of settlement, but to avoid settlement, gave up the entire Territories of California and New Mexico to slavery. There was nothing in the bill to obstruct the slaveholder in his declared purpose to overrun these countries with his slaves. Congress imposed no restraint; and the people themselves, however much opposed to slavery, were expressly prohibited from exercising their voice against it. The idea of a judicial decision that should be effectual for the

give it with the people, acting through their representatives on this floor. We required no commitment—we demanded no pledges. We would

United States having refused to aid in the extension of human slavery, and, for this cause, feeling that our wrongs are insupportable, we do proclaim

robbers," or to fight "mook battles." I here is a
 host of free men, with strong muscles, large hearts,
 and iron will, who have for years been disci-

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